



City of MISSION

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October 13, 2009

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Broadband Industry Practices (WC Docket No. 07-52)

Dear Commissioners:

I am the administrator for the city of Mission, Kansas, a municipality in which sizeable investments have been made in our broadband infrastructure by the incumbent local service provider. These investments were brought about by the passage of broadband and video legislation in 2006 that eliminated old burdensome regulations. The result has been an expansion of broadband competition and availability, and has created new jobs and brought competitive choices to the residents of my community.

Recently, I've learned of the FCC's consideration to impose regulatory authority over Internet and Wireless service providers in order to maintain a "free and open internet." I have grave concern that such regulation has the potential to stifle further investment by interjecting the Federal government into the management of our nation's privately funded networks.

Pursuing a policy of so-called "net neutrality" may have good intentions, but would undoubtedly stifle further broadband expansion. Net Neutrality would keep costs low for the large Internet content companies, but shift the costs of network expansion to consumers.

The government should implement policies that support the values and priorities of Congress and the Obama Administration, who are committed to grow our local communities during these tough economic times. We cannot afford to take steps backward by curtailing investment in our nation's broadband and wireless infrastructure, both of which have been a rare bright spot in our economy.

I would therefore urge the FCC to take a cautious approach to rulemaking that could have unintended consequences of discouraging further broadband and wireless investment. Such a move would have a lasting impact on communities like mine, and slow our nation's economic recovery.

Sincerely,



Mike Scanlon
City Administrator